been allowed to purchase it directly from M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Limited with the Stipulation that it would be used under expert Governmental supervision.

(ii) The use of DDT for the Public Health Programme has been restricted to 10,000 MTs per annum except in case of any major outbreak of Epidemic.

80th Anniversary of African National Congress

1471. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minster of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent celebration of 80th anniversary of African National Congress organised by the World Youth Action Against Apartheid at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to mobilise world for the eradication of apartheid?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On this occasion India's support to the valiant struggle of the African National Congress and our commitment to a non-racial and democratic South Africa was reiterated.

(c) India was the first country to impose a trade embargo against South Africa in protest against its racial policies. India was also the first to inscribe the issue of apartheid on the agenda of the United Nations and was influential in the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa. India become a party to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid in October 1977. It enacted the Anti-Apartheid UN Convention Act in 1981. Over the years, we have given considerable material, moral and diplomatic assistance to the anti-apartheid movement in general and the African National Congress in Particular.

[*Translation*]

Shortage of LPG in Madhya Pradesh

1472. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minster of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of LPG in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the immediate availability of LPG Cylinders to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). Generally there is no short supply of LPG refills in Madhya Pradesh. However, when any shortage comes to notice appropriate action is promptly taken.

[*English*]

Tibetian Population

1473. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minster of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Tibetians residing in the country;